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Security Council

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Letter dated 8 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am pleased to attach herewith the assessment of the work of the Security Council for the month of November 2001 under the presidency of Jamaica (see annex).

This assessment has been prepared under my responsibility, following consultations with the members of the Council, in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 12 June 1997 (S/1997/451). While other members of the Council were consulted, it should not be considered as representing the views of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Patricia **Durrant**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 8 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Jamaica (November 2001)

At the beginning of November 2001, Jamaica set out a series of objectives for its presidency during the month (S/2001/1055), which, inter alia, provided for the Council:

- To pursue sustainable peace and security in the conflict situations of which the Council is seized;
- To pay particular attention to the humanitarian effects of conflicts on the most vulnerable, particularly women and children;
- To focus attention on the problems of children and armed conflict and on the protection of civilians in armed conflict;
- To continue the Council's role in the United Nations response to international terrorism.

To this end, Jamaica identified a number of issues to which special emphasis would be given. These included efforts to advance the peace processes and to seek solutions to conflicts in Africa, in particular Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Western Sahara; to promote resolution of the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Afghanistan; to further the Security Council's counter-terrorism activities through a meeting of the Council at the level of Ministers; to address the issues surrounding children and armed conflict and the protection of civilians in armed conflict; and to promote a peaceful resolution of the crisis in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question.

Jamaica also expressed its intention to use its presidency to promote further transparency in the work of the Council, and undertook, through its chairmanship of the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, to continue to seek ways to improve the level of cooperation and consultations between the Security Council, the troop-contributing countries and the Secretariat.

Under Jamaica's presidency, the objectives set at the beginning of the month were substantially met through the following actions:

- The Council held separate high-level meetings with the Ministers participating in the Burundi and Democratic Republic of the Congo peace processes, which provided opportunities for Council members to interact with members of the Arusha and Lusaka peace processes; to share with them the Council's objectives, and to clearly define the Council's role in furthering the peace processes in the two countries and the region, as well as to restate that which is expected of the parties themselves. The meetings also provided an opportunity for the Council to hear the views of the relevant actors and their vision for the affected region. The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Percival J. Patterson, presided over the first of the two public meetings with the members of the Political Committee of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to give emphasis to Jamaica's firm commitment to peace in Africa.
- The Council received a final briefing from the facilitator of the Arusha peace process, Madiba Nelson Mandela, who was retiring as facilitator, and used the opportunity to thank him for his services to the international community. Jamaica's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, K. D. Knight, read a presidential statement (S/PRST/2001/35), setting out the Council's appreciation for Madiba's achievements as facilitator and endorsing the Burundi peace process, which he had shepherded to the point of installation of the interim government on 1 November 2001.
- The Council held separate private meetings with the Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia and Eritrea and engaged in a frank exchange of views in an effort to remove the obstacles to the effective operation of UNMEE. The Council urged both sides to cooperate fully with UNMEE and to take confidence-building measures that would advance peace between them.
- The Council held an open debate on the situation in Angola to draw international attention to the continuing conflict situation, the resulting humanitarian situation, and the efforts needed to

further the peace process. It afforded the Council an opportunity to exchange views directly with the Government of Angola, represented at the level of Minister, on possible ways to advance the peace process, including steps that should be taken by the Government to facilitate the process. It also provided an opportunity for the Council to learn of the initiatives of the Government in this regard and for the Council to urge the international community to provide humanitarian support for the people of Angola.

- The effectiveness of the sanctions regime imposed on Liberia was reviewed, including the possible humanitarian impact of the sanctions on the civilian population. The regional implication of the Liberian conflict situation was also reviewed.

- The Council was briefed in consultations on the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of armed groups in Sierra Leone through the efforts of UNAMSIL. In a statement to the press, the President of the Council issued an appeal for international donor support for the programme, which was underfunded. The President of the Council also arranged for a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, Hans Corell, on the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, which served to draw attention to the long delay in establishing the Court as a result of the lack of adequate funding.

- The peace process in Western Sahara had made no progress during the period under review, but the Council proceeded with a technical extension of the mandate of MINURSO.

- During the month, the humanitarian, political and security issues concerning Afghanistan were kept under constant review. The Council received a comprehensive briefing from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Lakhdar Brahimi, who outlined the options for United Nations involvement in the peacemaking and in the post-conflict peace-building reconstruction phases in Afghanistan. At a public meeting, at which the Foreign Minister of Jamaica presided, the Council adopted resolution 1378 (2001), approving a clear mandate for the Secretary-General to undertake initiatives for advancing the peace process and to deal with the humanitarian situation, and endorsed the efforts of the Special Representative in this regard.

- A series of consultations and meetings were held to receive briefings by the Secretariat on developments leading up to the elections in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and to relay a positive signal to the people of Kosovo of the Council's strong interest in their participation in and the conduct of the elections. The Council was also briefed by the Secretariat on the successful outcome of the elections.

- While there was no discernible progress in the situation in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, there was no deterioration in the situation and the Council approved an extension of the mandate of UNDOF without debate.

- In dealing with the issues surrounding the oil-for-food programme for Iraq, the Council reached consensus on a resolution sponsored by the five permanent members allowing for a six-month extension of the programme and for the later adoption of the proposed goods review list, and for further review and possible modification of the sanctions regime. The adoption of resolution 1382 (2001) can be regarded as significant progress on the difficult problems faced by the Council in dealing with its relationship with Iraq, as the Council demonstrated rare unanimity on this issue.

- The Security Council continued to exercise leadership in support of United Nations counter-terrorism activities. Meeting at the level of Ministers, the Council adopted resolution 1377 (2001) setting out a declaration confirming its prior actions and endorsing the activities being pursued by its Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001). This meeting, presided over by Jamaica's Foreign Minister, confirmed the Council's resolve to combat terrorism in all its forms.

- During Jamaica's presidency, the Office of Legal Affairs was asked to provide a briefing on the request of the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for ad litem judges to improve the efficiency of the Tribunal. The Council also had an opportunity to be briefed by the Presidents and Prosecutor of both the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and used the occasion to seek further clarification on the request for ad litem judges for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda directly from its President.

- The open debate on children and armed conflict, which was postponed under the French presidency in September, was held during Jamaica's presidency, at which time the Council heard comprehensive briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Executive Director of UNICEF. The Council also heard a precedent-setting statement by a former child soldier from Sierra Leone. The Council adopted resolution 1379 (2001) setting out a series of actions to be taken by the international community and providing support for the programmes being undertaken by the Secretary-General with respect to children and armed conflict.

- The Security Council heard a mid-term briefing from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on initiatives being considered by the Secretary-General, at the request of the Council, for the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The meeting sought to focus attention on ways to reduce the effects of conflicts on civilian populations and on the efforts being undertaken or contemplated by the United Nations and its agencies to facilitate the implementation of previous reports of the Secretary-General.

There were 13 consultations of the whole by Council members and 28 meetings of the Council, including five private meetings — two of which were with the countries contributing troops to MINURSO and UNDOF, pursuant to annex II.A of resolution 1353 (2001). The Council adopted seven resolutions and five presidential statements. The President of the Council was authorized to make 11 statements to the press. Following each informal consultation, the President routinely briefed non-members on the issues discussed. At the beginning of the Jamaican presidency, a new web site attached to that of the United Nations was established for the presidency of the Council, and a new practice of selecting the speakers' list for public meetings of the Council was established through the drawing of lots. The Council also continued with its deliberations to reform the format and content of its annual report to the General Assembly.

Africa

Liberia

On 2 November 2001, the Council held informal consultations of the whole to discuss the situation in Liberia pursuant to prior decisions of the Council to review the effectiveness of the sanctions regime imposed by resolution 1343 (2001) and to assess the humanitarian impact of the current sanctions and the possible future impact of the sanctions on the civilian population of Liberia. The Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) briefed Council members on the two meetings the Committee had with the Panel of Experts on its report (S/2001/1015). Members of the Council expressed their commitment to the continued monitoring of the implementation of resolution 1343 (2001) and reaffirmed the need for early and full compliance with the measures imposed under the resolution. They also took note of the Panel's findings that the sanctions imposed under resolution 1343 (2001) were having the desired effect on the activities of the Government of Liberia, and that the situation in the region had improved as a consequence. Council members welcomed the role of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in this regard.

Members of the Council were also briefed on the discussions between the Committee and representatives of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the Secretary-General's report pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of resolution 1343 (2001) on the potential impact of possible future sanctions on Liberia (S/2001/939). They expressed concern over the worsening humanitarian situation in Liberia, stressed the need for the international community to increase its humanitarian assistance to the civilian population of Liberia, and expressed their intention to keep in close touch with the relevant United Nations funds, programmes and agencies in order to develop an appropriate response to the humanitarian situation.

On 5 November, the Council, at a public meeting (4405th), received a briefing by the Chairman of the Panel of Experts on the report of the Panel, and by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001). The

Chairman of the Committee, Ambassador Kishore Mahbubani, introduced the members of the Panel. Council members were joined by non-members in expressing their views on the report (S/2001/1015), including a response to the findings in the report by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Liberia, Monie R. Captan (see S/PV.4405). The Council also received a briefing by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the humanitarian impact of the sanctions against Liberia pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of resolution 1343 (2001), to further the Council's review of the effects of the sanctions pursuant to paragraph 23 of that resolution (see S/2001/939). Council members were generally of the view that the sanctions did not directly contribute to the dire humanitarian situation in Liberia.

The members of the Council met in informal consultations on 7 November to give further consideration to the effects of the sanctions on the humanitarian situation in Liberia and decided that no modification of the sanctions regime was necessary at this time.

Sierra Leone

On 8 November, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, briefed Council members in informal consultations on recent developments in Sierra Leone, including steps being taken to transform RUF into a political party; the tremendous progress being made in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; the deployment of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) in all provinces of Sierra Leone; and the extension of authority by the Government throughout the country in areas previously controlled by RUF. Council members, in a statement to the press by its President, took note of the current developments; welcomed the support and assistance being given by the Government of Nigeria to the political transformation of RUF; noted the need for additional resources for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme; expressed their appreciation to the troop-contributing countries; and expressed their satisfaction with the plans under way with the help of the United Nations and the international donor community for the holding of the elections in 2002. They also welcomed the activities of the Mano River Women's Network in seeking to bring about closer relations between Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. They expressed appreciation for the role of ECOWAS in promoting dialogue among the Mano River Union States. The Assistant Secretary-General also briefed Council members on the crash of the UNAMSIL helicopter, which occurred on 7 November, resulting in the loss of the lives of the four Ukrainian crew members, two Zambian military officers, and a Bulgarian United Nations civilian air operations staff member. Council members, through a statement by the President to the press, expressed their condolences to the Governments and families of the deceased and their appreciation for the services of those who had sacrificed their lives in the pursuit of peace in Sierra Leone.

Also on 8 November, the Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, briefed Council members in informal consultations on the cause for delay in the timely establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone. Council members were advised that the inordinate delay was due primarily to the lack of adequate funding to establish the Court in keeping with the understanding between the Council and the Secretary-General to do so when the Secretary-General was assured of guaranteed funding for the first three years of operation. Notwithstanding the lack of such a guarantee, however, Council members, expressing concern about the effect of the long detention on the human rights of the detainees, urged the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to establish the Court as soon as practicable. In that regard, Council members were advised that a United Nations mission would visit Sierra Leone early in 2002 to sign the agreement with the Government of Sierra Leone in order to establish the Court.

Burundi

Council members issued a statement to the press through its President on 2 November, welcoming the establishment of the Transitional Government of Burundi on 1 November, and paying tribute to Madiba Nelson Mandela for his excellent contribution as facilitator to the peace process. Council members also thanked the Governments and heads of State of the region for their efforts and, in particular, the positive contributions of the Government of South Africa in providing protection for the returning political leaders. On 6 November, Council members, during informal consultations, discussed and agreed on final arrangements for the series of meetings scheduled for 8 November with the Ministers of the Governments concerned with the peace process.

At the first public meeting (4406th), on 8 November, Council members received a briefing from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Berhanu Dinka. The Chairman of the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, James Wapakhabulo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uganda, made a statement to the Council setting out in detail the status of the regional peace initiative. The President of the Council made a statement encompassing the Council's perspectives on the Burundi peace process (see S/PV.4406).

At a private meeting (4407th) of the Council, members of the Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, represented at the level of Ministers, exchanged views with the members of the Council on the future course of the peace process in Burundi. At a public meeting (4408th) thereafter, the President of the Council made a statement on behalf of the Council, setting out its position with respect to the peace process, including its call for the immediate cessation of hostilities; for the relevant parties to adhere to relevant human rights and humanitarian international conventions; and for the international community to increase its humanitarian economic assistance to Burundi (see S/PRST/2001/33).

On 15 November, the Council held a private meeting (4416th) to receive a final briefing from Madiba Nelson Mandela as facilitator of the Arusha peace process. At a public meeting (4417th) thereafter, the President made a statement on the Council's behalf, in which the Council expressed its deep gratitude to Madiba Nelson Mandela for his dedicated service to the people of Burundi and the cause of peace in Africa; reiterated its appreciation to the Government of South Africa; expressed concern about the outbreak of the recent violence in Burundi; and called on all Burundians to reject violence and to join the peace process (see S/PRST/2001/35).

Democratic Republic of the Congo

On 9 November, Council members held public and private meetings with members of the Political Committee of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to review the status of the peace process with them, including the current and future role of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). Final arrangements for these meetings were confirmed during informal consultations on 6 November. The Prime Minister of Jamaica presided over the first of the two public meetings (4410th), and statements were made by the Secretary-General, the Foreign Minister of Angola, João Bernardo de Miranda, as current chairman of the Political Committee of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, and the Prime Minister of Jamaica on behalf of the Council (see S/PV.4410).

During a private meeting (4411th), the members of the Council and the members of the Lusaka Political Committee had a frank exchange of views on the respective roles and expectations of the parties.

At its second public meeting (4412th), the Council adopted resolution 1376 (2001) by which it, inter alia, welcomed the general respect for the ceasefire, while expressing concern at the violations in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and calling for an end to support of armed groups; welcomed the withdrawal of some foreign forces from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the full Namibian contingent, and called on all parties that had not yet done so to comply with resolution 1304 (2000); demanded the demilitarization of Kisangani, pursuant to resolution 1304 (2000), while noting the pledge given at the meeting by RCD-Goma to comply, and that of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo not to occupy Kisangani, as well as the Secretary-General's decision to further deploy MONUC to Kisangani in the event of its demilitarization; expressed the Council's support for the inter-Congolese dialogue and its support of the facilitator; expressed concern at the continued human rights violations and the humanitarian situation; reiterated its condemnation of the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and set out the steps it considered necessary for the implementation of phase III of the deployment of MONUC. The Council also expressed satisfaction at the partnership established between the Lusaka Political Committee and the Council.

Members of the Council, meeting in informal consultations on 19 November, received a briefing from the Chairman of the Panel of Experts on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Council members agreed that a public meeting of the Council would be held in December to discuss the findings, conclusions and recommendations contained in the report and to afford non-members of the Council an opportunity to express their views.

Angola

The Security Council held an open debate (4418th meeting) on Angola on 15 November, at which time a comprehensive briefing was presented by the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on African affairs, Ibrahim Gambari. He provided a comprehensive briefing on political, military, humanitarian and social developments in Angola, and on the role of the United Nations Office in Angola. The Under-Secretary-General provided information on the role of civil society in helping to shape the political future of the country and the supporting role of the Office in this regard. He highlighted the difficult humanitarian situation of the population resulting from the war. Council members heard a statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola, João Bernardo de Miranda. Council members expressed their views on the issues, and a number of Member States, non-members of the Council, also participated in the debate (see S/PV.4418).

At the conclusion of the meeting, the President of the Council made a statement (S/PRST/2001/36) reflecting the views of the members, which, inter alia, included the holding of Jonas Savimbi and the armed faction of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) primarily responsible for the failure to implement the Lusaka Protocol. This position is consistent with prior statements and resolutions of the Council. The Council also reaffirmed its support for the Lusaka Protocol as the only viable basis for a political settlement of the conflict, and stated that the failure of UNITA to implement it and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council was the basis for the continuation of sanctions against UNITA. Also, reaffirming its intention to keep the sanctions in place until UNITA complied therewith, the Council called on Member States to adhere to the measures imposed by resolution 864 (1993) and to cooperate with the Monitoring Mechanism. The Council also expressed support for the Government of Angola in its intention to hold free and fair elections when appropriate conditions were in place. On the issue of the humanitarian suffering of the people, the Council reiterated its concerns and expressed support for the efforts of civil society and the churches to alleviate the humanitarian suffering of the people.

Eritrea and Ethiopia

Following informal consultations on 16 November, the Council held separate private meetings (4420th and 4421st) with the Foreign Ministers of Eritrea and Ethiopia. Those meetings were held at the request of the two countries and afforded Council members an opportunity to exchange views with them on the problems being experienced by the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) in carrying out its responsibilities. Following the meetings, the President of the Council made a statement to the press on behalf of the members of the Council, calling on the parties to exercise a greater degree of flexibility in their approach to the peace process, with a view to consolidating the significant progress made to date and to improve relations between them. Members of the Council, in expressing full support for UNMEE, noted the Mission's intention to continue monitoring the temporary security zone and adjacent areas to ensure the parties' compliance with the Algiers Agreements, and noted with concern that the monitoring of the 15-kilometre adjacent area north of the temporary security zone continued to be restricted. In conclusion, the members of the Council urged the parties to contribute to the further implementation of the Algiers Agreements in a practical and constructive manner and to exercise restraint in their public statements.

Western Sahara

The members of the Council met in informal consultations on 26 November to agree on the draft text of the resolution extending the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). In response to a letter from the Secretary-General dated 12 November 2001 (S/2001/1067), the Council agreed to approve an extension of the mandate pending receipt of a report of the Secretary-General. It was agreed that the text would be technical in nature and thereby enjoy the consensus of the Council. The Council met on 27 November (4427th meeting) and, without debate, unanimously adopted resolution 1380 (2001) reaffirming its previous resolutions on Western Sahara and extending the mandate of MINURSO until 28 February 2002.

Asia

Afghanistan

Fast-breaking events in Afghanistan kept humanitarian, political and security issues fully on the Council's agenda, with a number of briefings provided by the Secretariat. On 6 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Kenzo Oshima, briefed Council members in informal consultations on his recent visit to the Central Asia region. In a statement to the press by the President following the briefing, Council members expressed their continued concern about the deterioration of the humanitarian situation and the difficulties experienced in the delivery of assistance. They laid much of the blame for the difficulties squarely on the Taliban. Council members expressed support for the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance and for the cooperation received from neighbouring countries in this regard. Council members also reiterated their support for the efforts being undertaken by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi.

On 13 November, the Council held a public meeting (4414th) to receive a comprehensive briefing from Ambassador Brahimi on the outlines of a plan for the future involvement of the United Nations in Afghanistan. Several Member States, not members of the Council, participated in the meeting (see S/PV.4414).

Following informal consultations on 14 November, the Council met (4415th meeting) and unanimously adopted resolution 1378 (2001), in which, inter alia, it expressed strong support for the efforts of the Afghan people to establish a new and transitional administration leading to the formation of a government, and setting out the Council's expectations in that regard. The Council endorsed the central role of the United Nations in helping to achieve this objective and the important role of Ambassador Brahimi in the process.

The members of the Council were again briefed by Ambassador Brahimi on 20 November on the plans for the convening on 26 November of the Bonn meeting of Afghan parties to seek agreement on a transitional government. In a statement to the press by the President, Council members welcomed the convening of that meeting as an indispensable first step in the process and again expressed the Council's support for Ambassador Brahimi's efforts. Council members also expressed concern about the humanitarian situation, and in particular called for the Afghans to exercise restraint and not resort to acts of reprisal.

Europe

Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

On 8 November, Council members met in informal consultations and agreed on the text of the presidential statement, which was made at a meeting of the Council (4409th) on 9 November (S/PRST/2001/34). The statement of the President welcomed the progress made in preparation for the Kosovo-wide elections planned for 17 November and called on all parties to continue to strive for full implementation of resolution 1244 (1999). The Council welcomed the helpful role of the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Serbia. Council members were briefed by the Secretariat in informal consultations on 19 November on the positive outcome of the elections, and in a statement to the press the President welcomed the outcome, while noting the peaceful atmosphere in which the elections were conducted. Council members commended the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Hans Haekkerup, UNMIK, OSCE and others that had contributed to the successful outcome.

At a public meeting of the Council (4430th) on 27 November, the Council was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, on the latest developments in Kosovo, including the detailed results of the elections for the Kosovo Assembly. Members of the Council expressed their views and also heard statements by the representative of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the representative of Belgium on behalf of the European Union (see S/PV.4430).

Middle East

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Members of the Council met in informal consultations to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (S/2001/1079), and to consider a draft statement by the President and a draft resolution extending the mandate of the Force. On 27 November (4428th meeting) the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1381 (2001) extending the mandate of UNDOF until 31 May 2002. The President of the Council made a statement on behalf of the Council (S/PRST/2001/37) drawing attention to paragraph 12 of the Secretary-General's report, which points to the potentially dangerous situation existing in the Middle East.

Iraq oil-for-food programme

Members of the Council met in informal consultations on 26 November to receive a briefing by the Executive Director of the Iraq Programme on the report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/1089), and to consider a draft resolution prepared by the five permanent members of the Council to extend the oil-for-food programme. The objective of Council members to reach consensus on this issue was achieved and the Council met on 29 November (4431st meeting) and unanimously adopted resolution 1382 (2001), by which it, inter alia, extended the programme for 180 days and agreed to the adoption of a goods review list for implementation on 30 May 2002. The resolution also reaffirmed the Council's commitment to a comprehensive settlement on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the Council, including any clarification necessary for the implementation of resolution 1284 (1999).

Terrorism

The Council continued its lead role in the United Nations response to international terrorism in the wake of the events of 11 September 2001. At a Ministerial meeting of the Council (4413th meeting) on 12 November, presided over by the Foreign Minister of Jamaica, Council members reiterated their support of earlier actions by the Council to combat terrorism and adopted resolution 1377 (2001) attaching a declaration by the Council on the global effort to combat terrorism. The declaration, inter alia, expressed the Council's determination to proceed with implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) in full cooperation with the entire membership of the United Nations, and welcomed the progress made thus far by the Counter-Terrorism Committee in that regard.

Children and armed conflict

On 20 November the Council met (4422nd meeting) to consider the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict (S/2001/852). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Olara Otunnu, and the Executive Director of UNICEF, Carol Bellamy, briefed the Council. The Council also heard a statement by a former Sierra Leone child soldier, Alhaji Babah Awaneh. Members of the Council, as well as a number of non-members, expressed their views on the recommendations of the Secretary-General contained in the report (see S/PV.4422). Following the debate, the Council adopted resolution 1379 (2001) calling upon all parties to armed conflict to respect fully the relevant provisions of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict. The resolution also made certain requests of the Secretary-General aimed at advancing the protection and welfare of children affected by armed conflict. In addition, the resolution drew attention to areas related to children affected by armed conflict to be addressed by agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, and by the international financial institutions and regional financial and development institutions.

Protection of civilians in armed conflict

On 21 November, the Council heard an open briefing (4424th meeting) by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Kenzo Oshima, on initiatives being developed by the Secretary-General for the protection of civilians in armed conflict. That meeting was held against the background of a letter from the President of the Council in June addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2001/614), in which the members of the Council requested that the Secretariat undertake certain initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the Secretary-General's reports of September 1999 and March 2001. The Council also asked for this mid-term

briefing prior to the final report due in November 2002. Council members responded to the briefing and posed a number of questions, which were answered by the Under-Secretary-General (see S/PV.4424).

The International Tribunals

The members of the Council were briefed by the Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, on the request of the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for ad litem judges to expand the capacity of the Tribunal in the handling of its heavy caseload. The Deputy Prosecutor of the Tribunal was also present and responded to questions posed by Council members. Members of the Council postponed any further action on the request pending the meeting scheduled with the Presidents and Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. At the meeting held on 27 November (4429th), the Council received briefings by Judge Claude Jorda, President of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, Judge Navanethem Pillay, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and Carla Del Ponte, Prosecutor of the Tribunals. The Minister of Justice of Rwanda and the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia also made statements to the Council. Members of the Council used the opportunity to raise questions concerning the functioning of the Tribunals and to seek further clarification from the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda with respect to her request for ad litem judges (see S/PV.4429).

Statements by the President on behalf of the Council

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

The President of the Council made a statement on 29 November, on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, at the invitation of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The President noted that the event was a means for the international community to demonstrate solidarity with the Palestinian people and commitment to the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine, in accordance with Security Council resolutions. The President gave assurance that the Security Council would continue to exercise its responsibilities under the Charter with regard to the question of Palestine, and that the Council remained strongly committed to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East for the benefit of all parties. [For the full text, see appendix II.]

United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal

Speaking on behalf of the Council on 26 November, on the occasion of the United Nations consolidated appeal, the President urged all States to contribute generously to achieve the goal of $2.5 billion needed to assist and protect more than 33 million conflict-affected civilians. Acknowledging the difficulties faced in gaining access to those in need, the President called on all Member States to respect the recognized rules of international humanitarian law and to facilitate the work of aid agencies in gaining access to vulnerable populations. [For the full text, see appendix II.]

Wrap-up session

The Council met on 30 November (4432nd meeting) for a wrap-up discussion of the work of the Security Council for the month and to review the objectives set by the Jamaican presidency (see S/PV.4432).

Appendix I

Statements to the press made by the President of the Security Council during the month of November 2001

Burundi (2 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council welcomed the establishment of the Transitional Government of Burundi on 1 November.

Members of the Council paid tribute to the role of President Mandela, neutral facilitator, for his excellent contribution to the peace process.

Members of the Council commended the Governments and heads of State of the region for their efforts at furthering the peace process and, in particular, noted the positive contributions of the Government of South Africa in providing protection for returning political leaders.

Liberia (2 November 2001)

Members of the Council heard a briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia on the two meetings between the Committee and the Panel of Experts on its report (S/2001/1015).

Members of the Council expressed their commitment to the continued monitoring of the implementation of resolution 1343 (2001) and reaffirmed the need for early and full compliance with the measures imposed under the resolution.

Members of the Council took note of the Panel's findings that the sanctions imposed under resolution 1343 (2001) were having the desired effect on the activities of the Government of Liberia and that the situation in the region had improved as a consequence.

Members of the Council welcomed the efforts of all, including ECOWAS, who had contributed to this.

Members of the Council were informed that the Committee would continue with its discussions on the recommendations in the Panel's report following the open debate in the Council set for 5 November 2001.

Members of the Council were also briefed on the discussions between the Committee and representatives of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the Secretary-General's report under paragraph 13 (a) of resolution 1343 (2001) on the potential humanitarian impact of possible future sanctions on Liberia (S/2001/939).

Members of the Council expressed concern over the worsening humanitarian crisis in Liberia and stressed the need for the international community to increase its humanitarian assistance to the civilian population of Liberia.

Members of the Council expressed their intention to keep in close touch with relevant United Nations funds, programmes and agencies in order to develop an appropriate response to the humanitarian situation.

Crash of UNAMCIL helicopter (8 November 2001)

Members of the Council were briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, on the crash of a UNAMSIL helicopter off the coast of Sierra Leone yesterday, and the loss of the lives of the four Ukrainian crew members, two Zambian military officers and a Bulgarian United Nations civilian air operations staff member.

Members of the Council expressed their heartfelt condolences to the Governments and families of the deceased.

Members of the Council also expressed their deep appreciation of the services rendered by those UNAMSIL staff members who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit of peace in Sierra Leone.

Special Court for Sierra Leone (8 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council have been concerned about the long delay in the establishment of the Special Court for Sierra Leone. We have seen a number of notes from the Secretary-General drawing attention to the lack of voluntary contributions to fund the Court.

Members of the Council are also concerned that the long detention of a number of accused raises questions about their human rights. For these and other

reasons, members of the Council would like to hear from the Under-Secretary-General, the Legal Counsel, Hans Corell, on the status of the establishment of the Court and the problems faced by the Secretary-General in implementing the resolution establishing the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Developments in Sierra Leone (8 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council were briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, on recent developments in Sierra Leone.

Members of the Council noted the positive political developments, including steps being taken to transform RUF into a political party. In this regard, they welcomed the support for the process by the Government of Sierra Leone and the assistance being provided by the Government of Nigeria.

Members of the Council noted that the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process was progressing, with a higher than anticipated number of ex-combatants entering the programme. They noted that this would lead to the need for additional resources, especially for reintegration.

Members of the Council noted that UNAMSIL was now deployed in all provinces, and expressed appreciation to the troop-contributing countries.

They took note that the Government of Sierra Leone had further extended its authority across the country in areas formally controlled by RUF.

Members noted that preparations for elections scheduled for 2002 were under way with the support of the United Nations and the international donor community. They emphasized the importance of funds not only being pledged but also being disbursed.

In regard to the regional situation, members welcomed the activities of the Mano River Women's Network, which had been instrumental in seeking to bring the three countries closer together.

They expressed appreciation to the members of ECOWAS and noted that the Foreign Ministers of ECOWAS and the Mano River Union member States would meet with the Secretary-General on the margins of the General Assembly next week.

They also urged the donor community to respond positively to the shortfall in funding for the consolidated appeal fund.

American Airlines crash (12 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council have learned with deep distress and shock of the crash of an American Airlines Airbus reportedly on its way to the Dominican Republic with some 246 passengers on board, earlier today in New York.

On behalf of the members of the Council, I wish to convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Government and people of the United States, and to the families of those who lost their lives in this terrible incident.

Eritrea and Ethiopia (16 November 2001)

Members of the Council held private meetings with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea and Ethiopia, respectively, regarding the peace process.

Members of the Council called on the parties to exercise a greater degree of flexibility in their approach to the peace process, with the view to consolidating the significant progress made to date and to improve relations between the two neighbouring countries.

Members of the Council called on the parties to resolve all outstanding issues.

Members of the Council reiterated their full support and confidence in the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Members of the Council noted the intention of UNMEE to continue monitoring the temporary security zone and adjacent areas to ensure the parties' compliance with the Algiers Agreements. In this regard, members of the Council noted with particular concern that the monitoring of the 15-km adjacent area north of the temporary security zone continues to be restricted.

Members of the Council urged the parties to contribute to the further implementation of the Algiers Agreements in a practical and constructive manner and to exercise restraint in their public statements.

Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (19 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council welcomed the elections of 17 November 2001 in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which were held in peaceful and orderly conditions, and with a good turnout in all communities, including the minority communities. An important step has been made in the implementation of resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999. The elections will make possible the establishment of democratic self-governing institutions, as specified in the Constitutional Framework for Provisional Self-Government.

Members of the Security Council commended the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Hans Haekkerup, UNMIK, OSCE and all those who contributed to the successful conduct of these elections.

Members of the Security Council recalled the responsibility of Kosovo's elected leaders and all concerned to respect fully all the provisions of resolution 1244 (1999), in particular the final status provisions, and to comply with the Constitutional Framework for Provisional Self-Government. Full respect for resolution 1244 (1999) will contribute to building a democratic, pluralist and prosperous future for all the communities of Kosovo. Stability in south-east Europe will also be strengthened.

Afghanistan (20 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council met in informal consultations and were briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi, on the developments in Afghanistan following the adoption by the Council of resolution 1378 (2001) on 14 November 2001.

Members of the Council were informed by Ambassador Brahimi that a meeting would be convened in Berlin, Germany, beginning on 26 November, in which a wide cross-section of Afghan parties were expected to participate.

Members of the Council welcomed the convening of the meeting as an indispensable first step towards the establishment of a broad-based representative government in Afghanistan. They encouraged all the parties to participate in the meeting in good faith and without preconditions.

Members of the Council expressed concern about the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and reiterated the Council's call on all Afghan forces to refrain from acts of reprisal, to adhere strictly to their obligations under human rights and international humanitarian law, and to ensure the safety and security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of humanitarian organizations.

Members of the Council expressed their continued support for the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to bring peace to Afghanistan and reiterated their intention to continue to follow the situation in Afghanistan closely.

Western Sahara (26 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council were briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hédi Annabi, on the situation in Western Sahara.

Members of the Security Council expressed support for the efforts of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, James Baker III, to find a solution which would be acceptable to the parties concerned. The members of the Council also expressed their appreciation for the work of outgoing Special Representative of the Secretary-General, William Eagleton, and expressed support for his successor Ambassador Swing.

Members of the Security Council called on the parties to refrain from any action which could aggravate the situation.

Members of the Council expressed their concern at the humanitarian situation and called on the parties to resolve outstanding issues in this regard.

Members of the Security Council agreed to the Secretary-General's recommendation for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara for three months, to allow the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General and the parties concerned to continue efforts aimed at finding a durable solution to the dispute.

United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeals (26 November 2001)

Members of the Security Council urge all States to give generously to the United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeals which seek $2.5 billion to assist and protect more than 33 million conflict-affected civilians.

Members of the Council recognize that gaining access to vulnerable populations and the increasing need to engage with armed groups is one of the key challenges facing humanitarian agencies. The Council acknowledges that too often access is sporadically granted or even bluntly denied.

Members of the Security Council call on all Member States to respect the recognized rules of international humanitarian law, and to facilitate the work of aid agencies wishing to gain access to vulnerable populations and help secure the safety of displaced and refugee populations.

Appendix II

General statements made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the Council during the month of November 2001

Launch of United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeals for 2002 (26 November 2001)

I am honoured to join you this morning at this very important event, in my capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of November.

The annual launch of the consolidated appeals is an occasion to draw the world's attention to the plight of its most vulnerable — more than 33 million people living in conditions of unspeakable despair in parts of Africa, Asia and Europe. I am not speaking about simple statistics, but about people. Women, men and children who are suffering the consequences, every day, of internal conflicts taking place in their villages and towns.

Their security is at the very core of what we are trying to achieve through the work of the Security Council.

The theme of today's appeals launch is "reaching the vulnerable", an issue that has been high on the Council's agenda. In recent years, we have spent long hours on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, matters related to women, peace and security, as well as to the prevention of armed conflict. It has become the mantra of many Council debates that civilians today have become the principal victims of war, in particular in internal armed conflicts.

The Council is painfully aware that progress in protecting the vulnerable is measured in lives and livelihoods, and by the extent to which people are free from fear. Such progress cannot be quantified by statements of intent or expressions of concern; no matter how well meaning.

We must translate good words into good deeds. The Secretary-General has called for the establishment of a culture of protection, a culture in which all players have their recognized roles and responsibilities. Governments should live up to their commitments, armed groups should respect the recognized rules of international humanitarian law, the private sector should be conscious of its impact in crisis areas, and intergovernmental bodies should display the necessary commitment. Jointly, we must ensure that our efforts bring relief and protection to the many millions suffering in war and natural disasters — not least, to the refugees, the internally displaced, the children who have been forced into combat.

To reach the most vulnerable, aid agencies must gain sufficient humanitarian space. This means that they must often carry out negotiations with armed groups to secure access, and to ensure that warring parties respect international human rights and humanitarian law. Contacts with armed groups should be based on the core humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality and humanity, to stop the suffering of innocent civilians, and to permit a sustained dialogue. This is not a means of legitimizing armed elements, but a necessity to save lives.

We must move the security of all to the very centre of our considerations. Indeed, the security of States is built on the security of individuals. As the Secretary-General himself recently stated, "protection efforts must be focused on the individual rather than the security interests of the State, whose primary function is precisely to ensure the security of its civilian population".

Let me make one point clear. The issue of sovereignty continues to be the cornerstone of both international and national stability. It is the States and their Governments that organize social security and health systems, not the non-governmental organizations, individuals or international organizations. Sovereignty, however, comes with responsibility. This responsibility is to protect the vulnerable.

These points warrant repetition. I firmly believe that the persistent recollection and raising of these normative bars will eventually lead to more compliant behaviour of those who are the main source of threat and insecurity to distressed populations. Already, the Council's focus has led to a convergence of views in identifying and defining the core issues pertaining to the protection of civilians.

And the protection of civilians is very much at the heart of today's event. Minutes ago, the Secretary-General appealed to donors for $2.5 billion to meet the

most urgent needs of the most vulnerable for a year. Let me add my voice to his. The investment you make today will not only help save lives; it will set the basis for self-sufficiency for people and their communities. It will restore hope, and erase despair.

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (29 November 2001)

At the outset, I wish to thank the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for the kind invitation extended to me, in my capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of November, to participate in this annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. This is a very special event, through which all of us in the international community demonstrate our solidarity with the Palestinian people and our commitment to the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine, in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

The question of Palestine was first placed on the agenda of the United Nations more than half a century ago. Throughout this period, the United Nations has worked to resolve this issue. The Security Council, for its part, has been involved in this endeavour. Today, two of the Council's resolutions — 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) — are universally recognized as the bases for any durable solution to this question and constitute the foundation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. It is important to note that practically all agreements and understandings reached by the two sides as part of the Oslo process make clear reference to those landmark resolutions.

It is very disturbing indeed that the past year has been marked by a considerable and rapid increase in violence, as a result of which hundreds have lost their lives and thousands have suffered injuries. It would be irresponsible and utterly unacceptable to allow this situation to perpetuate. A concerted and well-coordinated effort by all concerned is required to check the hostilities and stop the suffering and continuation of violence.

In the course of the past year, we, in the Council, have followed with great concern the situation on the ground. You may recall that the Council met on a number of occasions to discuss measures aimed at putting an end to violence and resuming the bilateral negotiations. Because it had been a particularly difficult year, the Council was encouraged by a number of diplomatic initiatives aimed at reaching a ceasefire and breathing air into the peace negotiations. The members of the Council were of the view that the recommendations of the Mitchell Committee and the Tenet understandings offered a practicable and reasonable way to reducing the level of violence, achieving a ceasefire and resuming the peace dialogue. As the crisis persisted, additional efforts were deployed by various international parties. In particular, the Council welcomed the statement issued on 25 October last by representatives in the region of the European Union, the United States, the Russian Federation and the United Nations Special Coordinator. The Council strongly supported that initiative as an important opportunity to prevent a further escalation of violence and the disintegration of the accomplishments of the peace process. The members of the Council are also hopeful that the position statement made by the United States Secretary of State Colin Powell on 19 November will allow the parties to overcome the deep-seated sense of mutual suspicion and mistrust and help them return to the negotiating table. In order to do that, the parties should unequivocally reaffirm their commitment to the bilateral agreements reached to date, and demonstrate, through a tangible effort on the ground, the will to implement those agreements.

The Council will remain fully engaged and stands ready to assist the two sides through this critical period. We welcomed and strongly supported the highly instrumental and increasingly important peacemaking role played by the Secretary-General. His leadership role, his personal involvement in all aspects of the issue in the course of the past year and his close partnership with the members of the Council have been most helpful and have enjoyed great respect of the parties.

In spite of the enormous obstacles of the past year or so, the Council is hopeful today that the two sides will indeed be able to move forward along the road of reconciliation, putting bitterness and anger behind them. This is the only realistic way of forging a strong partnership for peace. Both sides should realize that their own future and that of their children rests in their hands. Working towards peaceful co-existence and good-neighbourliness will require a great deal of personal and political courage, wisdom and far-sightedness.

The Security Council highly values the close involvement of the international community in assisting the parties out of the impasse and in facilitating the continuation of the peace dialogue. We are also gratified by the vigorous economic and other assistance provided to the Palestinian people by the donor community and organizations, including the United Nations, and stress the importance of a coherent and sustained involvement of all concerned in this undertaking.

In conclusion, on behalf of all the members of the Security Council, allow me to assure you that the Council will continue to exercise its responsibilities under the Charter as regards the question of Palestine. We shall remain strongly committed to the goal of achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, for the benefit of all parties concerned.